

POLICY BULLETIN CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

SFSP 01-08

January 15, 2008

SUBJECT: Summer Food Service Program Averaging of School Food Authority or Census Data

CONTACT: Matthew Anderson

PH: (801) 538-7685

The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify that state agencies are not allowed to use averaging of multiple schools free and reduced survey information, or census data, to determine Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) open site eligibility. This clarification was received from the National Office. This is contrary to historical practice.

An open and restricted open site is defined in 7 CFR 225.2 as a site located in an area in which at least 50 percent of the children are from households that would be eligible for free or reduced price school meals under the National School Lunch Program. The 2007 Administrative Guidance for Sponsors states that open and restricted open sites must serve children in geographical areas where 50 percent or more of the children residing in the areas are eligible for free and reduced price school meals.

The geographical location of the site is the rule for determining open site and restricted open site eligibility. If the site is located in a needy area, (supported by SFA or census data) and meals are made available to all children in the area, that site is considered open.

Those SFSP sites which have previously used averaging of more than one school's information or census data to qualify their site as eligible will have to submit applications for 2008 in order to be approved based on 7 CFR 225.6 (c) (2) and (3) requirements.

If you plan on operating a SFSP site you believe has used averaging of eligibility information, and have not been previously contacted by a member of our staff, please contact us.